

PLAYBACK

Butt on the big screen

by: **Etan Vlessing**

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Brent Butt's production shingle is adding feature film to its credits.

Vancouver-based Sparrow Media has signed a development deal with Brightlight Pictures that will see the *Corner Gas* creator and star write and top-line his first feature.

There's no storyline or casting details on Butt's inaugural theatrical project, as he's only getting down to writing it now. Butt will share the producer credits with Shawn Williamson and Stephen Hegyes at Brightlight.

"Brent is a bona fide Canadian cultural icon and we are thrilled to be making a picture with the funniest man in Canada," Williamson says.

Butt has done some feature film acting. He appeared in the Gwyneth Paltrow-starrer *Duets* by director Bruce Paltrow and Hugh Wilson's *Dudley Do-Right*, playing "a bad guy in black," but he has never penned a feature screenplay.

The feature development comes as *Corner Gas* heads towards its final year after six seasons and 107 episodes. Butt also has a new TV comedy development deal with CTV.

Vancouver-based Brightlight is currently producing the Sarah Michelle Gellar-starrer *Possession* and *Passengers*, starring Anne Hathaway, as well as the Fox 21 series *Saved*. On the TV front, Brightlight is coproducing the Global television drama *The Guard*, and shooting the sci-fi series *Stormworld* in Australia.